

REVIEW PROCESS

A panel composed of current Utah Arts Council Community Outreach Panel members, key business and economic development partners, and other recognized community leaders will meet and make recommendations to the Utah Arts Council board by November 30, 2006. Grantees will be notified of their grant status by December 15, 2007.

LIMITATIONS

1. Only one grant will be awarded to a community per grant cycle.
2. Matching funds need to come from other sources and not from other Utah Arts Council grants.
3. Change Leader participants will need to be certified or registered to participate in a Change Leader Institute before June 30, 2008. Email aboulton@utah.gov for more information on this program or visit the website at http://arts.utah.gov/services/workshops_training/training_programs/change_leader/index.html

POSSIBLE PROJECT GOALS & STRATEGIES

- ♦ Nurture artists and small cultural organizations as businesses and micro-enterprises to increase employment
 - ♦ Create the right conditions for and engage in cultural tourism to bring new resources to the community
 - ♦ Support artists and artist live/work spaces as anchors around which to build local economies
 - ♦ Cluster arts organizations as retail anchors and activity generators to attract and support other enterprises
 - ♦ Leverage the proximity of cultural amenities and the artists' touch to improve property and increase value
 - ♦ Advance the civic, commercial, industrial, cultural, environmental, and/or the recreational interests of the community
 - ♦ Retain, expand, develop beneficial area businesses building on cultural assets
 - ♦ Promote the community as the best place to live, learn, work, visit, and operate a business
 - ♦ Designate and maintain both historic and artists districts
 - ♦ Leverage public funds for renovation and new construction
 - ♦ Connect cultural and historical assets with scenic areas to promote tourism
 - ♦ Coordinate activities with nearby food, commercial, and historical entities to promote circulation of visitors in adjacent neighborhoods
 - ♦ Actively partner with retail and service businesses to capture more economic activity in the neighborhood
 - ♦ Integrate handmade crafts in housing rehab and construction
 - ♦ Develop public spaces and cultural events to enhance neighborhood identity, use of public art
- (From the *Creative Community Builder's Handbook*, 2006)



Grant Contact Information:

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Creative Communities Initiative 2007-08

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES GRANT

In the past, professionals involved in policymaking, community planning, economic revitalization and affordable housing have not considered sources of creativity as an asset within the community to improve that community's overall health. Currently, communities that are revitalizing their economic efforts by capitalizing on local talent and cultural assets are experiencing stronger economic growth. (Tom Borup, Partners for Livable Communities)

This **grant** will serve as a catalyst for innovative community partnerships and civic dialogue on creative economic development and provide matching funds to implement projects to that end. A unique aspect of the program is the leadership-driven components. Project leaders will be trained with necessary facilitation skills to create civic dialogue and leverage critical support from the community. After the project is completed, these leaders will continue to be a valuable professional resource for the community.

This grant for community projects is funded through a special award made in the 2007 legislative session. Future support of community development projects such as those selected will depend, in part, on the outcomes derived and reported from this funding.

This initiative will be administered by the Community Partnerships Program at the Utah Arts Council, Anna Boulton, Program Manager.

PURPOSE OF GRANT

The Utah Arts Council would like to support the creation of innovative connections between culture, art, community building, civic engagement, community planning and use of public space for the enhancement of economic opportunities and citizen quality of life in Utah's communities.

DESIGNATION

Upon completion of a successful project and continued efforts to creatively use community assets, grantee communities will be eligible to receive an official designation as a "Utah Creative Community" and be recognized by the Governor, Utah Arts Council, Department of Community and Culture, Governor's Office of Economic Development and Utah League of Cities and Towns at a statewide gathering.

SCOPE

Five to eight communities will be selected to receive a \$10-16,000 matching grant for specific community projects to be completed within FY 08 that will support the goals of the program and meet the grant criteria.

ELIGIBILITY

- 1. The main applicant must be an arts/cultural 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or city entity that supports the community's arts/cultural programs.
- 2. At least one of the applicants (or key partners) is required to be a certified UAC *Change Leader* or be currently participating in the *Change Leader Program*. To register to participate in the Change Leader program email aboutlton@utah.gov

The Utah Arts Council's *Change Leader Program* teaches principles and skills that enable leaders to be successful in creating and sustaining necessary support for the project from the community and key stakeholders. Leaders of the selected projects need to see the possibilities and rally *existing* assets or resources as well as develop the most advantageous and creative partnerships. Project leaders will be given the opportunity to participate in this training. Workshops using the *Creative Community Builder's Handbook*, (Fieldstone 2006), will be offered to project leaders to assist them with this process.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1. The project must have at least two key partnerships with state or local entities. A letter of commitment will be required from each partner detailing their level of support. Possible partners may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:
 - ♦ City or county government entities
 - ♦ Chamber of Commerce
 - ♦ Businesses
 - ♦ Artist organizations
 - ♦ Festival organizations
 - ♦ Arts Education organizations
 - ♦ Schools
 - ♦ Department of Transportation
 - ♦ State or National Parks
 - ♦ Resource, Conservation & Development organizations
 - ♦ Ethnic community organizations
 - ♦ Youth nonprofits
 - ♦ Public Art committees
 - ♦ Utah League of Cities & Towns
 - ♦ Tourism programs and visitor bureaus
 - ♦ Historical societies
 - ♦ Real Estate organizations
 - ♦ Religious organizations
 - ♦ Other local nonprofits
 - ♦ Redevelopment agencies
 - ♦ Main Street Programs
 - ♦ Parks & Recreation departments
 - ♦ Libraries
 - ♦ Citizen action groups
 - ♦ Police Departments
 - ♦ Correctional facilities

- 2. The project must contribute to the economic development of the community and include economic enhancement strategies using local assets, arts, and culture.
- 3. A letter of support will be required from the local or regional government agency and should be included with the grant application.
- 4. A letter of commitment from each collaborative partner involved in the project is required and should be included with the grant application.
- 5. Matching funds will be required from sources other than the Utah Arts Council. Up to 50% of the matching funds may be from in-kind donations or services.
- 6. Outcome measures will be articulated in the application and will be given consideration as they relate to the creation of public value of the arts and economic impact.
- 7. After receipt of the grant letter, the grantee will give credit to the Utah Arts Council in promotion, publicity, and advertising associated with the project such as "This project is supported by the Utah Arts Council" with the UAC logo in printed materials.
- 8. All events funded by the Utah Arts Council must be accessible to persons with disabilities, including those with visual, hearing, mobility and learning impairments.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 1. Underserved* and rural communities will receive special consideration.
- 2. Innovation, creativity, and visionary thinking will be ranked high in considering the applicants.
- 3. The level of civic dialogue and participatory meetings that are held during the planning of the project.
- 4. The impact of the project on economic development in the community.
- 5. Collaborative partners and the overall impact of those partnerships; the level of community support.
- 6. Sources of matching funds, level of support from key civic agencies.
- 7. Clearly articulated goals and strategies, budget, and outcomes; organizational and community readiness

TIMELINE

Requests For Proposals will be published by June 15, 2007 with a postmark deadline of **September 15, 2007**. Projects will need to begin implementation before June 30, 2008 and be completed by December 31, 2008. Submit proposal to: Utah Arts Council Community Partnerships Program, 617 E South Temple, SLC, UT 84102

*Utah's underserved communities are defined as those on reservation sites, rural and isolated communities, incarcerated youth and adults, alternative school populations, hospitalized and institutionalized populations, immigrant and resident populations with limited English proficiency, those with disabilities, some minority cultural groups, those in poverty, and non-professional community-based artists and arts organizations.